

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03478 01 OF 02 051526Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 IO-14
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05 /084 W
-----027076 051607Z /47

O R 051340Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1804
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 3478

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CY, TU, US
SUBJECT: TURKISH REACTION TO CLOSE VOTE IN HIRC

REF: ANKARA 3401 (DTG 040610Z MAY 78)

1. SUMMARY: MAJOR TURKISH NEWSPAPERS MAY 5 REACTED
PESSIMISTICALLY TO NARROW MARGIN OF MAY 3 HOUSE INTER-NATIONAL
RELATIONS
COMMITTEE VOTE FOR LIFTING US ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY,
GENERALLY EXPRESSING THE VIEW THAT CHANCES FOR ULTIMATE
CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL HAVE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ANKARA 03478 01 OF 02 051526Z

DIMMED. SOME PAPERS CARRY CHARGES THAT THE ADMINISTRATION
IS NOT DEVOTING SUFFICIENT EFFORT ON THE ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH TIMING OF MAY 3 HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE (HIRC) VOTE ON LIFTING OF ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST
TURKEY RESULTED IN ONLY LIMITED COVERAGE IN MAY 4 TURKISH
NEWSPAPERS, MAY 5 PRESS REFLECTED GENERAL CONCERN THAT

NARROWNESS OF MARGIN BY WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL WAS APPROVED INDICATED REDUCED CHANCES FOR EMBARGO TO BE REPEALED. ALL FIVE OF TURKEY'S LARGEST PAPERS CARRIED PESSIMISTIC ARTICLES, WITH EDITORIAL COMMENTS ALSO ON THE GLOOMY SIDE.

3. MOST MAJOR PAPERS REPORTED THAT PRIMIN ECEVIT, IN BULGARIA ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT, TOLD REPORTERS THAT "IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL OR WISE TO EXPRESS ANY VIEW AT THIS STAGE" ON THE MEANING OF THE COMMITTEE VOTE, BUT CONSERVATIVE, PRO-OPPOSITION TERCUMAN ALSO REPORTED HIM AS CALLING IT "UNFAVORABLE". UNNAMED "HIGH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN THE DELEGATION" WAS QUOTED IN SEVERAL PAPERS AS SAYING THAT THE COMMITTEE VOTE WAS "NOT A VERY SUCCESSFUL RESULT", WITH LEFTIST, PRO-GOVERNMENT CUMHURIYET QUOTING HIM AS ADDING THAT THE NARROW VOTE COULD HAVE A PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ON FUTURE VOTES.

4. WHILE REPORTING THAT MFA OFFICIALS IN ECEVIT'S DELEGATION FOUND THE VOTE "WORRISOME" BECAUSE OF ITS UNEXPECTED NARROWNESS, MODERATE LEFTIST, PRO-GOVERNMENT MILLIYET SAID THAT "POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES" IN ANKARA CALLED THE NARROW VOTE "NORMAL", IN LINE WITH WHAT HAD BEEN EXPECTED, AND NOT A CAUSE FOR WORRY. SAME SOURCES WERE REPORTED TO EXPECT A SIMILAR NARROW VICTORY IN THE SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROXIMATELY MAY 8-12 AND TO HAVE SAID THAT TURKEY FEELS THAT THE IMMEDIATE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL EASE THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 03478 01 OF 02 051526Z

SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BY CONVINCING THE CYPRIOT GREEKS THAT THEY HAVE NO PROFITABLE COURSE OTHER THAN THE BEGINNING OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS; THE ARTICLE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT "THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TENDENCY IN AMERICA IS DIFFERENT IS GRADUALLY BECOMING STRONGER IN ANKARA." MILLIYET ALSO QUOTED "FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES" AS SAYING: "THE SITUATION IS GENUINELY SERIOUS; THERE IS NOT MUCH ROOM FOR OPTIMISM. BECAUSE THE PROPOSALS THAT THE TURKS BROUGHT FORWARD REGARDING CYPRUS WERE NOT EXPLAINED WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY TO WORLD PRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION, THE EXPECTED EFFECT WAS NOT PRODUCED AND INFLUENTIAL LARGE NEWSPAPERS CLAIMED THAT THESE PROPOSALS WERE NOT SUFFICIENT."

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03478 02 OF 02 051532Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 IO-14
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05 /084 W
-----027132 051606Z /47

O R 051340Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1805
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ANKARA 3478

5. MILLIYET ARTICLE BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT SAYNUR GOREN REPORTED THAT "CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES" SAID THAT "THE ADMINISTRATION DID NOT GO TO CONGRESS WITH ALL ITS STRENGTH ON THIS ISSUE", AND THAT THE EFFORT PUT FORTH BY THE ADMINISTRATION WAS LESS THAN HALF THAT EXERTED ON THE PANAMA CANAL ISSUE. GOREN CLAIMS THAT FOR SOME TIME WORD HAS BEEN GOING AROUND WASHINGTON TO THE EFFECT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION VIEWS THE EMBARGO-LIFTING AS A "LOST CAUSE" AND HAS THEREFORE BEEN REDUCING ITS LOBBYING EFFORTS IN ORDER TO SAVE ITS STRENGTH AND INFLUENCE FOR OTHER ISSUES.

6. BOTH TERCUMAN AND CUMHURIYET, PARTICULARLY THE FORMER, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ANKARA 03478 02 OF 02 051532Z

STRESSED THAT THE HIRC AMENDED THE ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL BEFORE APPROVING IT (TERCUMAN CALLED THE RESULT "CONDITIONAL APPROVAL") AND OBSERVED THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS LIKELY TO BE SUBJECTED TO FURTHER RESTRICTIVE AMENDMENTS. THE TWO PAPERS ALSO REPORTED THAT HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE MFA AND THE US EMBASSY WERE HOLDING MEETINGS IN ANKARA TO EVALUATE THE SITUATION.

7. INDEPENDENT, SENSATIONALIST HURRIYET HAD HUGE HEADLINE

READING, "CARTER IS FOOLING AROUND", WITH SUBHEADING, "THE PRESSURE OF THE EMBARGO CONTINUES". HURRIYET BLAMED THE GREEK LOBBY FOR THE DROP IN SUPPORT FOR REPEAL OF THE EMBARGO FROM THE 19 WHO SUPPORTED IT IN A LETTER TO THE SECRETARY TO ONLY 18 MAY 3, AND REITERATED THE PAPER'S VIEW THAT "TURKEY'S TRUE INTERLOCUTOR IN THE EMBARGO ISSUE IS NOT THE WHITE HOUSE OR THE CONGRESS...BUT THE ATHENS GOVERNMENT, WHICH HOLDS THE STRINGS OF THE GREEK LOBBY IN ITS HANDS." HURRIYET, LIKE MILLIYET, NOTED THAT IT WAS ONLY CHANCE, IN THE FORM OF REPRESENTATIVES HARRINGTON AND DIX'S ABSENCE, WHICH ENABLED THE EMBARGO REPEAL TO WIN COMMITTEE APPROVAL.

8. MILLIYET EDITORIAL BY ABDI IPEKCI STATES THAT THE US CONGRESS HAS BOWED BEFORE GREEK PRESSURE AND THAT UNSYG WALDHEIM HELPED THE GREEK CAMPAIGN BY NOT CALLING THE SIDES TO NEGOTIATIONS. IN CONTRAST TO THE GREEK EFFORTS, TURKEY REFRAINED FROM ACTION SO AS NOT TO APPEAR A PETITIONER; THIS SHOWS DIFFERENT GREEK AND TURKISH CONCEPTS OF HONOR. ALTHOUGH THE GREEKS MAY THUS WIN A VICTORY ON THE EMBARGO ISSUE, THIS VICTORY WILL LOSE A GREAT DEAL FOR BOTH GREECE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO IPEKCI.

9. HURRIYET EDITORIAL BY OKTAY EKSI SAYS IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE EMBARGO WILL NOT BE LIFTED AND SAYS THE EMBARGO WAS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 03478 02 OF 02 051532Z

IMPOSED AND MAINTAINED OUT OF CONGRESSMEN'S CONCERN FOR VOTES AND PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS, NOT OUT OF CONCERN FOR LAW AND FAIRNESS; OTHERWISE THE US WOULD HAVE REACTED SIMILARLY AGAINST ISRAELI USE OF US ARMS IN LEBANON AND GREEK USE OF US ARMS IN CYPRUS BEFORE THE TURKISH ACTION THERE. EKSI SAYS THAT, IN THE END, IT WILL BE THE US WHICH WILL PAY DEARLY FOR ITS ATTITUDE, NOT TURKEY.
SPIERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA03478
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780192-0590
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780591/aaaaczhf.tel
Line Count: 208
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6e3cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 ANKARA 3401
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2786517
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH REACTION TO CLOSE VOTE IN HIRC
TAGS: PEPR, ETRD, CY, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6e3cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014